

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6888

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FOR ATHERTON FROM BYROADE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PK, US, PFOR

SUBJECT: KUBOS FOR ROBERT PECK

1. AS BOB PECK PREPARES TO DEPART FOR OTHER PASTURES, I WANT YOU TO KNOW HOW MUCH WE IN ISLAMABAD WILL MISS HIM. AS COUNTRY OFFICER FOR PAKISTAN THESE PAST TWO YEARS, BOB HAS PROVIDED EXPERT ADVISE, FAST REACTIONS, AND INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE IN COORDINATING A DIVERSE BUREAUCRACY. IN SHORT, HE HAS BEEN THE CONSUMMATE DESK OFFICER.

2. AS IF THIS WERE NOT ENOUGH, BOB AS ACTING COUNTRY DIRECTOR FOR SEVERAL MONTHS OVER THE PAST YEAR HAS DONE A SUPERIOR JOB IN MANAGING A SERIES OF COMPLEX POLICY ISSUES. THESE HAVE COVERED A MULTITUDE OF FIELDS FROM NUCLEAR ENERGY TO NARCOTICS TO MILITARY SUPPLY. BOB HAS HAD A FINE FEEL FOR UNDERSTANDING WHAT WERE OUR PRIORITIES IN ISLAMABAD, BALANCING THEM AGAINST HIS OWN PERCEPTIONS OF THE NEEDS OF THE DEPARTMENT, AND HAS INVARIABLY COME UP WITH SOLID SUGGESTIONS AND PLANS TO MOVE THE BUREAUCRACY IN DIRECTIONS BOTH SUPPORTIVE OF GOOD US/PAKISTAN RELATIONS AND IN THE OVERALL INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

3. BOB HAS VISITED US SEVERAL TIMES DURING HIS TENURE AND I HAVE FOUND HIS TRIPS TO BE INVALUABLE IN GIVING

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US INSIGHTS INTO THE DEPARTMENT'S AND WASHINGTON'S

CONCERNS ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN. I HAVE FOUND HIS OPINIONS IN THESE MATTERS SOUND AND HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO FLAG FOR US ISSUES THAT MIGHT HAVE BECOME CONTENTIOUS BUT WHICH WE MANAGED TO HEAD OFF THANKS TO BOB'S INSIGHTS.

4. PERHAPS THE HIGHEST COMPLIMENT I CAN PAY TO BOB IS THAT I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED HIS OBJECTIVITY AND DIS-INTEREST HAVE BEEN ABOVE REPROACH. I HAVE BEEN DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY BOB'S INHERENT GOOD JUDGMENT IN WORKING WITH US IN DEFINING POSITIONS AND POLICIES FOR OUR RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN. HE HAS NOT HESITATED TO DISAGREE WITH US WHEN HE THINKS IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF PAK/AMERICAN RELATIONS TO DO SO; AT THE SAME TIME ONCE WE HAVE A COMMONLY AGREED POSITION, HE HAS SHEPHERDED IT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT WITH COMPLETE BUREAUCRATIC SKILL.

5. PLEASE PASS ON TO BOB MY MANY THANKS FOR HIS YEOMAN'S EFFORTS IN PAB AND MY SINCERE GOOD WISHES TO HIM FOR EVERY SUCCESS IN HIS FUTURE ASSIGNMENT.
BYROADE

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